

Disinfection Recommendations for Pet Shops, Pet Day Cares, Kennels, & Shelters



Important Sanitation Considerations

Keeping your facility clean and disinfected will make it a healthier place for your animals, your staff, and your customers. Effective sanitation requires applying a disinfectant to clean surfaces. This requires the use of **both detergent and disinfectant products**. Detergents alone do not kill germs. Although some disinfectants also act as detergents, many (such as bleach) do not. The effectiveness of many disinfectants is reduced by organic material such as feces, kitty litter, saliva, and dirt, so surfaces must be cleaned before disinfecting.



Use approved disinfectants in your facility. Products that claim to be disinfectants must be registered with the EPA. See the reverse side of this sheet for a list of common disinfectants and their properties to choose what will work best for your facility.

Using a Bleach Solution

Clean floors and surfaces with soap and water to remove any organic waste before applying a bleach solution.

Mix bleach solution fresh every few hours and replace when visibly dirty.

Don't mix bleach with your soap solution! That will inactive the disinfectant properties of the bleach.

Use cold water as hot water will make the bleach solution less effective.

To Disinfect Most Surfaces:

Regular bleach: Mix ½ cup per one gallon of cold water (1:32 bleach: water).

Ultra bleach: Mix 3/8 cup per one gallon of cold water (1:42 bleach: water).

Allow bleach solution to have at least 10 minutes of contact time with the surface. Rinse with cool water.

To Disinfect Toys, Food and Water Bowls, & Grooming Equipment:

Regular bleach: Mix 2 tbs. per gallon of cold water (1:100 bleach: water).

Wash toys, food and water bowls in soap and water. Rinse well and allow to soak in bleach solution for 10 minutes. Air dry.



Common Terms

Regular Bleach: Sodium Hypochlorite 5.25% dilution.

Ultra Bleach: Sodium Hypochlorite 6.12-7.35% dilution.

Soap/detergent: A cleaning agent that uses surfactants to suspending dirt and grease. Removes germs but does not kill them.

Disinfectant: A chemical agent that kills germs. Does not necessarily remove dirt or grease.

Disinfectant Cleaners: Contain surfactants to remove dirt and grease **and** destroys harmful germs. Many products with quaternary ammonium or (quats) are disinfectant cleaners.

Surfaces to Disinfect Daily

- Floors, walls and barriers, including fencing
- Food and water containers
- Toys
- Grooming equipment
- Kennels and crates (when in use and/or between occupants)
- Furniture in play areas
- Dog runs and walkways
- Cat rooms
- Isolation areas
- Outdoor dog runs and play areas

For more information contact the Public Health Veterinarian's Office at 206-205-4394
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